

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Inventor: Alberto PIROVANO

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: SUBMARINE CABLE BRANCHING
UNIT WITH CURRENT LIMITER

)
)
) Group Art Unit: Not assigned
)
) Examiner: Not assigned
)
)
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the Title, insert the following new heading and new paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No.
60/259,223, filed January 3, 2001, the content of which is incorporated herein by
reference, and claims the right to priority based on European Application No.
00128547.7, filed December 27, 2000. --

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REMARKS


The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 27, 2001

By: 
Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

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